



Board of Directors

President

Meg Morris
COVANTA ENERGY

Vice President

Craig Lovett
CAPITAL PAPER RECYCLING

Treasurer

Zoe Neale
SAVE THAT STUFF ORGANICS

Secretary

Stephanie Collins-Rankin
GRAFTON RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Member-At-Large

Terry Grady
ELECTRONIC RECYCLERS
INTERNATIONAL

Jeff Cabral
SUSTAINABLE WINCHESTER

Liza Casella
CASELLA RECYCLING

Phil Goddard
TOWN OF BOURN ISW/M

Kim Grant
TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE

Michelle Lee Guiney
CONSULTANT

Ben Harvey
E.L. HARVEY & SONS, INC.

Laura Kozar
SUSTAINABILITY GUILD INT.

Kara Sergeant
GREEN RESTAURANT ASSOC.

Jefferson Smith
CITIZEN

MassRecycle

is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and realizing the vital environmental, social and economic benefits created by reducing, reusing, and recycling waste materials, and by increasing the utilization of recycled products.

January 16, 2013

Secretary Richard Sullivan
Commissioner Kenneth Kimmell
RE: Revised Draft Solid Waste Master Plan.

To Secretary Sullivan and Commissioner Kimmell:

On behalf of the MassRecycle Board of Directors, I formally request an extension of **the comment period for the Revised Solid Waste Master Plan (ending on February 15, 2013), until at minimum April 1st**. This request is based on a vote of the Board taken on January 9, 2013 at its monthly board meeting.

The decision to revise the Solid Waste Master Plan to modify the moratorium on municipal solid waste combustion to encourage innovative and alternative technologies (e.g., gasification or pyrolysis) for converting municipal solid waste to energy or fuel on a limited basis for up to 350,000 tons per year has generated considerable discussion within the recycling community in Massachusetts. MassRecycle has been following this discussion closely and noticed rising concerns about a polarization taking effect amongst those of differing views. A suggestion was made that MassRecycle host a forum to provide a platform to discuss this decision in greater detail and to weigh the implications as a way of de-escalating the tension amongst the various constituencies.

The Board concurred that this discussion is one that would benefit all parties and is offering our annual recycling & organics conference & tradeshow, which will be held on **March 19, 2013 in Boxborough**, as just such a platform. We've recently re-branded the conference as our R3 Conference - *Real World Issues, Real World Solutions, MassRecycle*. MassDEP is a sponsor of the conference and the Board felt this would be a good opportunity for MassDEP and EEA to provide a keynote speaker and workshop speakers for this event to garner feedback in a manner that is productive while allowing a better opportunity for explanation of how this change might affect recycling, what exactly these technologies are and their effectiveness and what materials could be utilized, including C&D wood which is currently being taken to northern New England and Canada to be burned for energy.

We respectfully request that you consider an extension of time to respond into the spring as an opportunity that will help clarify your vision and provide valuable discussion and feedback. Regardless of your decision on the extension, we would like to have speakers from the administration represented at the conference. I will follow-up with your respective offices to discuss both matters. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Edward Hsieh
Executive Director, MassRecycle

cc: Mr. Greg Cooper, MassDEP
Mr. John Fischer, MassDEP
MassRecycle Board of Directors
MassRecycle website
Recycle MA listserve

50 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110
(617) 338-0244
www.massrecycle.org